



The overall purpose of EdQual is to provide policy makers and practitioners with new knowledge, initiatives and a sustainable research capacity to assist them in improving the quality of education for disadvantaged learners, contributing to an overarching goal of reducing poverty amongst disadvantaged groups and achieving the education and gender equity Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Special attention is given to remote, overcrowded and otherwise difficult delivery contexts and meeting the educational needs of the most disadvantaged groups. The consortium creates a sustainable resource through supporting African partner institutions to become regional centres of excellence in one or more areas of education quality and through the use of action research methods that nurture the local roots of innovation.

Five large scale projects 2005 to 2010

Implementing curriculum change to fight poverty and promote gender equity

- Aims to understand how curriculum change in mathematics and science education may be implemented in ways that contribute to poverty alleviation and promote gender equity
- Adopts a collaborative action research approach

Lead institution: University of the Witwatersrand
Contact: Mario Pillay

The use of ICTs to support basic education in disadvantaged schools and communities

- Aims to raise teachers' competence and confidence to use available ICTs in teaching and learning
- Designs and evaluates teacher development initiatives to support the introduction of ICT in Rwanda

Lead institution: Kigali Institute of Education
Contact: Jolly Rubagiza

School effectiveness and educational quality in low income countries (SeeQ)

- Develops understandings of in- and out-of-school quality impacting on learner performance and school effectiveness in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Uses secondary analysis of Southern and Eastern African Consortium on Monitoring Educational Quality I and II data and school case studies

Lead institution: University of Bristol
Contact: Angeline Barrett

Language and literacy development

- Identifies existing effective practice in teaching basic literacy in first, second and third languages
- Develops and pilots initiatives
- Develops support materials for mainstreaming initiatives
- Develops policy options

Lead institution: University of Dar es Salaam
Contact: Hillary Dachi

Leadership and management of change for quality improvement

- Identifies existing effective practice in leading and managing change
- Action research with primary heads
- Develops a school self-evaluation tool

Lead institution: University of Cape Coast
Contact: George Oduro

Director: Leon Tikly, University of Bristol
www.edqual.org